



**BRAINTREE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR

1968

W. H. Root, Printer, Halstead

BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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W. A. McMILLAN, Esq. (Vice-Chairman)

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L. H. BROWN

T. G. DUNFORD (from May, 1968)

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C. L. TUCKWELL

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C. R. C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. ORGAN, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.I. (Meat and other Foods)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

W. R. GAGE, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

D. W. HARPER, M.A.P.H.I., Dip., Meat and other Foods

Meat Inspector

G. M. PROUD, M.R.SAN.A.

Technical Assistant and Assistant Housing Officer

R. F. TWITCHETT

Senior Clerical Assistant

Mrs. V. T. DEBBAGE

Junior Clerks

Miss S. D. FEW

Miss K. R. HUNWICKS (to April, 1968)

Mrs. G. G. STONE (from April, 1968)

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
Town Hall, Braintree.

August, 1969

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

This is the fourteenth and last annual report that I have the pleasure in laying before you.

This report, and all previous reports is compiled in accordance with instructions from the Department of Health and Social Security. Circular 1/69 instructs the Medical Officer of Health to make a report dealing with the sanitary circumstances, sanitary administration and vital statistics of the area. Furthermore he is specifically instructed to report on the adequacy of water supplies and arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal and to state in what areas new schemes for sewage disposal are urgently needed.

Once again I have to thank Dr. Miller Wood the Area Medical Officer for providing statistics on the clinics administered by the Essex County Council.

Vital Statistics

The Registrar General's estimate of the population is 24,770 an increase of 660 over 1967.

There were 376 live births giving a corrected birth rate of 15.8 per 1,000 population. This compares with 17.2 in 1967.

The corrected death rate is 9.3 almost the same as last year when it was 9.2 per 1,000.

Infant deaths numbered 8 giving an infant mortality rate of 21.0 which is considerably higher than the 1967 low figure of 10.1.

Six of the infant deaths were due to prematurity and one each to meningococcal septicaemia and multiple congenital abnormalities.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

A total of 155 cases were notified the majority were of measles 113. There were 9 cases of dysentery the tail end of the 1967 outbreak and 11 of food poisoning. Of these 9 were in one family and the other two were associated with the same outbreak. The infection was *Salmonella enteritidis*.

Immunisation and Vaccination

Vaccination and immunisation was carried on as in previous years by the family doctors and at the Essex County Council Clinics. You will see from the statistics later in this report that 314 children were vaccinated against measles and one can expect a reduction in measles cases in future years.

Environmental Hygiene

This section has been written by your Chief Public Health Inspector. Mr. Organ has given a full account of the water supplies, housing and sewage. In his introductory remarks he has suggested that new methods may be needed in dealing with old problems i.e., refuse disposal and that new difficulties are arising with modern houses and that a somewhat different pattern of disease is being met with in slaughter-houses.

During the past 14 years I have made frequent reference to the inadequacy of the sewage facilities throughout the district so I am happy to note that the Hatfield Peverel and Terling sewerage scheme was completed and operative early in the year.

Although there was a temporary hold up on the Panfield and Rayne scheme the difficulties have now been ironed out and at the time of writing work has commenced.

Good progress has been made in the preparation of the Great Saling and Shalford and the White Notley schemes and so work should not be long delayed.

Next on the list come Coggeshall and Kelvedon where the existing works are grossly overloaded but here again good progress has been made in preparing the plans for the new works.

It only remains for me to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and previous health committees for the support they have given me over the past 14 years. My period of office has for me been a happy one and I wish the Council every success in solving their future problems.

I acknowledge with gratitude the advice and help I have had from all officers of the Council.

It has always been a pleasure to work with Mr. Organ and his staff and to them I tender my sincere thanks.

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD.
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	59,234
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	24,770
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books	7,962
Rateable value	£726,890
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,785

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	365	187	178
Illegitimate	11	5	6
Total live births—	376		

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	15.2
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	2.9
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 1.04	15.8
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	16.9

STILL-BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	5.0
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales	14.0
Total live and still births—	378

INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of infants under 1 year—

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	8	3	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total infant deaths—	8		

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	21.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.9
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	18.6
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	18.6
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	24.0
Infantile mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	18.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil

DEATHS:

Total	Male	Female
245	122	123

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.9
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.94	9.3
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	11.9

All the above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1968

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the classification is given under the sixty-five headings based on the International Abbreviated List 1968. Only those cause headings with deaths allocated to them are shown, headings with no deaths allocated to them are omitted.

In previous years the 1948 classification with 36 headings was used and all headings were shown whether deaths were allocated to them or not.

	Male	Female
Meningococcal infection	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	13	18
Diabetes mellitus	1	—
Other endocrine etc. diseases	1	—
Mental disorders	1	—
Other diseases of nervous system, etc	2	—
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2	3
Hypertensive disease	1	2
Ischaemic heart disease	28	29
Other forms of heart disease	7	4
Cerebrovascular disease	12	17
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	5
Influenza	2	—
Pneumonia	9	9
Bronchitis and emphysema	6	1
Asthma	—	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	4
Peptic ulcer	2	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	1
Cirrhosis of liver	—	1
Other diseases of digestive system	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	2	1
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	—	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	2	2
Congenital anomalies	1	—
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—
All other accidents	1	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	—
All Causes	122	123

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:—

(i) Child Welfare Clinics were held at the following Centres during the year:—

				Attendances
COGGESHALL				
St. Peter's Room	1st & 3rd Tuesday	2.0	p.m.	542
School Clinic	2nd Monday	10.0	a.m.	50
CRESSING				
Mission Hall, Tye Green	1st Monday	2.0	p.m.	236
GREAT BARDFIELD				
Town Hall	1st Monday	2.0	p.m.	325
TERLING				
The New Village Hall	1st Tuesday	2.0	p.m.	351
HATFIELD PEVEREL				
Church Hall, Maldon Road	2nd & 4th Tuesday	2.0	p.m.	617
KELVEDON				
St. Mary's Hall	2nd & 4th Friday	2.30	p.m.	780
WETHERSFIELD				
Village Hall	3rd Monday	2.15	p.m.	348

(ii) Home Help Service:—

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office, 75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

(iii) Ambulance Service:—

The Rural District of Braintree is served by the Ambulance Station, Braintree and Witham.

(iv) Laboratory Services:—

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents, the bacteriological examination of ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by either the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1., or the Public Health Laboratory, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board:—

(i) Chest Clinics: —

These are held twice weekly at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Diseases	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	9	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	11	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	6	—	—
Measles ...	113	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	3	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	3	3	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	1	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	9	—	—
Totals ...	155	4	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

Diseases	Total Notified	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	11	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	113	1	8	25	43	16	4	5	7	2	—	1	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	9	2	—	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals 155	5	12	33	44	28	6	5	8	5	6	5	2	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

Diseases	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	65 and over	Age unknown
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	3	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	11	2	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	1	1	—	—	1
Infective Hepatitis	6	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	113	5	17	18	14	15	36	2	1	—	—	1	—	5
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	9	—	1	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	155	7	18	19	18	20	45	8	4	4	2	2	1	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1968

Diseases	Total Notified	Great Bardfield	Bradwell	Coggeshall	Cressing	Fairstead	Faulkbourne	Feering	Fitchingfield	Hatfield Peverel	Kelvedon	Black Nolley	White Nolley	Panfield	Patistwick	Rayne	Bardfield Saline	Great Saline	Shalford	Stisted	Terling	Welthershfield
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	113	4	1	9	15	—	—	5	23	1	1	6	—	5	1	4	1	—	4	20	—	13
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	3	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	9	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	155	4	1	13	16	—	1	8	24	1	2	34	—	6	1	4	1	—	4	22	—	13

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

	BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS	BY COUNTY STAFF	TOTALS
Primary Courses:—			
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	186	85	271
Diphtheria & Tetanus	—	32	32
Diphtheria	—	9	9
Pertussis	—	—	—
Tetanus	19	95	114
Poliomyelitis	186	166	352
Smallpox	223	—	223
B.C.G.	—	53	53
Measles	196	118	314
Reinforcing Doses:—			
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	142	38	180
Diphtheria & Tetanus	72	255	327
Diphtheria	—	23	23
Pertussis	—	—	—
Tetanus	25	78	103
Poliomyelitis	117	182	299
Smallpox	16	—	16
B.C.G.	—	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
ST. PETER'S CLOSE,
BOCKING,
BRAINTREE.

June, 1969.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my report on the Sanitary Circumstances of the District and the work of the Public Health Inspector's and Housing Department for the year 1968.

Whatever the findings of the Royal Commission on Local Government, I think it is inevitable that certain public health services will have to be looked at on a much wider basis. Local Authority and other water undertakings are already being grouped into larger units and there would appear to be no practical reason why other services should not be similarly dealt with. One which comes to mind is refuse disposal. Fast approaching is the time when controlled tipping of crude refuse is no longer possible, nor indeed desirable, and Authorities will have to look towards other methods of treatment. Modern plants cannot be provided cheaply nor can they be operated economically unless designed to take a higher throughput than that of a single small Authority. It is known that neighbouring Councils already have or anticipate disposal problems and perhaps the time may now be opportune for a preliminary get-together.

Technical progress is inevitable and indeed desirous but unfortunately this is not always achieved without some side effects and this has been instanced in recent years in more than one respect. One of these is the widespread increase in condensation experienced in Local Authority and other housing. Modern design and construction, particularly in relation to the omission of the open fire without regard to alternative safeguards, plus the increasing habit of leaving the dwelling unheated during the day when both husband and wife may be at work are probably responsible for the growth of this condensation.

Modern methods of animal husbandry have also brought problems to the Public Health Inspector. Whilst some of the diseases and conditions encountered in the past have largely disappeared, present techniques in breeding, rearing and feeding of animals intended for human consumption, sometimes tend to create conditions which could affect the fitness of the animal for human consumption and which are more difficult to detect. Fortunately, advice from the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Service and laboratory facilities are readily available and made use of whenever necessary.

The 70 elderly persons flatlets now occupied continue to serve a very useful purpose and two further and larger units are now planned, one at Coggeshall and a second unit at Hatfield Peverel. Administration wise, both from the Departmental aspect and that of the Resident Housekeepers, these units can and do often present problems and I would like to pay tribute to the Housekeepers, who, in my opinion are carrying out a most difficult task in a most satisfactory manner.

Other aspects of the Department's work are covered in the text or tables following this introduction.

In conclusion I should like to thank all other Officers of the Council for their help and co-operation during the year; members of the Council for their continued interest and support; and by no means least, my own staff for their loyalty and efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties, often under difficult circumstances and at times considerable personal inconvenience.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. ORGAN,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT WATER

Once again it is pleasing to report that the Public Water Supplies throughout the District have remained generally satisfactory both in quality and quantity. Constant check on the raw water from Terling (Swan Pond) was maintained as a routine precaution.

None of the waters is liable to have any plumbo solvent action.

Regular bacteriological and chemical examinations of the raw water from the Council's Pumping Stations were carried out and all the water passing into supply from whatever source was bacteriologically examined at frequent intervals.

74 samples in all were taken. Copies of typical reports on the analyses of the waters from five sources, Petches Bridge Waterworks, Coggeshall Waterworks, Terling Waterworks, the South Essex Water Company and Chelmsford R.D.C. will be found under the heading of individual works.

Periodic flushing of 'dead ends' was again maintained in an effort to prevent stagnation of water in mains.

All main water supplies in the District are subject to chlorination at the respective sources. In the case of the Council's undertakings gaseous chlorine is employed at Petches Bridge Waterworks and hypochlorite solution at Coggeshall and at Terling.

Apart from two small extensions to serve new housing estates there were no new main extensions during 1968.

The Council's Waterworks at Petches Bridge, Coggeshall and Terling continued to operate efficiently during the year.

Negotiations were continued during the year for the Council's Water Undertakings to be taken over by the Colchester Water Board and it would appear that the date for this will be early in 1969.

Details of the functioning of each undertaking during 1968 follow under the headings (A) to (E).

Petches Bridge Waterworks (A)

Number of gallons pumped during the year ended 31st December,					
1968	...	...	...	...	140,729,000
Average day's pumping	...	...	...	...	17.47 hours
Augmented supply from Dunmow Rural District	...	...	...	...	Nil

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance. It is alkaline in reaction but not to an excessive degree. The water is free from metals. Its hardness is very moderate and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

Coggeshall Waterworks (B)

Number of gallons pumped during the year ended 31st December,					
1968	...	...	...	...	30,702,000
Average day's pumping	...	...	...	...	11.9 hours

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a very minute trace of iron. The hardness of the water is very moderate and its somewhat high content of mineral and saline constituents is not considered excessive for drinking and domestic uses. The water conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

Terling Waterworks (C)

Number of gallons pumped during the year ended 31st December,
1968 ... 33,932,000
Average day's pumping ... 10.2 hours

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is exceedingly hard in character but otherwise contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

South Essex Water Company (D)

Total quantity of water received by this Council from the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1968 is as follows:—

Eastern Area

Augmented supply to Coggeshall, Kelvedon and Feering ...	}	149,017 000
Supply to Bradwell, Cressing, Stisted, Black Notley and White Notley ...	}	
Supplied to B. & B.U.D.C. from Black Notley ...	}	Nil
Supplied to B. & B.U.D.C. from Cressing ..	}	Nil
Purchased from B. & B.U.D.C. for Cressing ...	}	Nil

Southern Area

Augmented supply to Hatfield Peverel, Terling and Fairstead	33,014,000
	182,031,000

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water

This sample shows slight opalescence and deposit associated with its appreciable content of iron. The water is free from other metals and it has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality. The hardness of the water is moderate and its content of mineral and saline constituents is not considered excessive. It is of a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity. The results indicate a wholesome water.

Supply from Chelmsford R.D.C. (E)

Total quantity of water received by this Council from Chelmsford R.D.C. for the year ended 31st March, 1968 was made up as follows:—

Ranks Green Extension, Fairstead ...	920,000
Fuller Street Extension, Fairstead ...	875,000
Cardfield Extension, Hatfield Peverel ...	1,087,000
Boreham End Extension, Hatfield Peverel ...	147,000
	3,029,000

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water

Satisfactory bacteriologically.

Number of new connections at A ...	32
Number of new connections at B and D	113
Number of new connections at C and E	85
	230

SHALLOW WELL SUPPLIES

Only two public shallow well supplies were still in use at the end of the year as follows:—

Finchingfield	Two wells at Hawkins Harvest and at Ost End
---------------	---

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

It is pleasing to report that Contract 2 of the Hatfield Peverel/Terling Scheme was completed in the early part of the year, and the embargo on further development in Hatfield Peverel was lifted.

Work was duly commenced on the connections in the village of Terling and by the end of the year all the properties in this village which were previously drained to the old Council owned septic tanks had been connected to the new sewers. The old tanks are now used solely for surface water.

In addition to the above a number of properties in the village draining to private septic tanks were connected.

Embargoes on further development involving discharge of additional sewage into existing systems continue at Coggeshall and Kelvedon.

Conditions in these Parishes where there are no modern drainage facilities continue to deteriorate.

Tenders were received for the Rayne and Panfield Sewerage Scheme in September, 1968 and the lowest submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval.

Unfortunately Ministry Approval was not forthcoming by the end of the year and indications are that they will require the Scheme to be re-advertised. This is very disappointing in view of the urgent necessity for main drainage facilities in these two parishes and it is hoped that an approved Tender can be obtained as soon as possible in 1969.

The situation with regard to the various works is as follows:—

Coggeshall and Kelvedon

These old, grossly overloaded works are a constant trouble in maintenance in order to obtain reasonable effluents. Some improvements to the effluent have been obtained by constructing lagoons but the only satisfactory solution is a completely new works of sufficient capacity.

The same situation exists with the pumping stations which are most difficult and expensive to maintain owing to their age, design and gross overloading.

Hatfield Peverel and Terling

Commissioned early in the year this new works is operating within its design capacity in dry weather. However it is apparent that considerable quantities of storm water is entering the sewers and efforts are being made to trace the sources.

Wethersfield

These works continue to operate satisfactorily and all effluent samples taken were good.

From time to time very strong discharges are received from the R.A.F. Station at Wethersfield which cause some treatment problems.

White Notley

Gross overloading of these works continues. Subsequent to the Local Investigation by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government a revised scheme for a complete new works on the site was submitted and outline approval obtained.

Subject to the availability of technical staff it is hoped that the detailed drawings will be submitted for approval in 1969.

Cornish Hall End

These small works continue to operate very well, providing satisfactory effluents.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection of Domestic Refuse

This service continued to be well maintained throughout the year and there were no undue problems arising and little difficulty with regard to labour. Slight disruptions due to holidays and sickness were generally quickly overcome and genuine complaints were few and far between.

Experiments were carried out during the year on paper and plastic sacks to be used as bin liners, prior to the introduction of pilot schemes during 1969. The Council also approved the introduction of this method on two future developments at Coggeshall and Hatfield Peverel.

It is obvious that the paper or plastic sack method, whilst involving additional capital outlay on the sacks, can provide a number of obvious and hidden economies and it is hoped that the time when more extensive schemes can be put into operation, is not too far distant.

The collections at Cressing, Notleys and Rayne, carried out by the Braintree and Bocking Urban District for a number of years were taken back from the 1st April co-incidental with a new additional vehicle being put on the road. A further new vehicle was acquired at the same time as a replacement for one already long past its economic life.

Trade Refuse

The number of bins collected was 84 per week from 37 premises, giving an annual income of £182 2s. 0d.

Disposal of Refuse

All refuse collected in the Rural District was disposed of in disused gravel workings at Straits Mill, Bocking, operated by the Urban District Council. When arrangements were first made for this it was anticipated that this could have been a permanent arrangement but later it became obvious that additional tipping space may not become so readily available as at first thought and this Council was then asked to look for its own facilities as soon as practicable.

Preliminary negotiations for the acquisition of land at Shalford for tipping purposes had in fact been instituted late in 1967 but in the Spring of 68 it was learnt that the owners were about to go into liquidation and therefore there could be some considerable delay even assuming negotiations could proceed at all.

However, in August, contact was re-established with the Agent for the Liquidator and the matter of acquisition proceeded, though somewhat slowly. No firm conclusions had been reached by the end of the year but prospects appeared reasonably hopeful.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

1968

Housing Inspections	100
Revisits and inspections of work in progress	280
Visits to premises and interviews with owners, builders, etc.	159
Visits and inspections re. Improvement Grants	333
Visits re. Council House applications and exchanges	329
Visits and inspections prior to removals to Council Houses	114
Visits and inspections following rent arrears and Notices to Quit	142
Visits re. overcrowding and permitted numbers	6
Visits to Old Persons Flatlets	190
Visits re. Garage Allocations	13
Visits to investigate complaints	299
Notifiable Disease enquiries	118
Infestations by insect pests	12
Infestations by Rats and Mice	8
Visits to premises re. Water Supplies	15
Visits to Waterworks and Public Pumps	3
Water Samples taken	103
Visits to premises re. drainage to sewer	106
Conversion of Pail Closets, etc.	1
Drains inspected and tested	17
Visits to Refuse Tips	37
Refuse Collection	161
Schools	5
Sewage Works	9
Inspection of Swimming Pools (Samples Taken)	5
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	22
Clean Air Act, 1956	8
Civic Amenities Act, 1967	1
Abandoned Cars	93
Inspections ref. Atmospheric Pollution	7
Smoke/Grit Nuisances	11
Refuse Tips Controlled	1
National Assistance Act, 1948	1
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	1
Inspections of Cafes	57
Inspections of Butcher's Shops	48
Inspections of Public Houses	12
Inspections of Canteens including Schools	33
Inspections of Bakehouses	7
Inspections of Ice Cream premises	4
Inspections of Dairies	7
Inspections of Shops	33
Inspections of Pea Viners	3
Inspections of Grocery Shops	17
Inspections of Fish Shops	2
Inspections Power, (Factories Act, 1961)	2
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	63
Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	4
Inspections and Visits to Slaughterhouses	905
Inspections of Knacker's Yard	17
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	418

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Routine inspections under this Act have continued during the year and most premises have been or are now being brought up to the required standard. It was not found necessary to resort to any formal action to ensure compliance.

The only accident reported during the year, occurred whilst a meat slicing machine was being cleaned. Subsequent investigation did not reveal any contravention or neglect of the legal requirements affecting dangerous machinery.

Details are given on page 22 of the numbers and types of premises registered together with the number of the persons employed therein, and the inspections carried out by the Department.

Moveable Dwellings

One new site licence was issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. during the year, the number now licenced being 14.

No problems arose with regard to any of the sites.

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement

There is little to report here. Complaints were few in number and related in the main to one particular premises, which has been the source of some trouble over a number of years. Unfortunately there is no simple remedy in this instance.

Vermin Infestation

Little action was necessary with regard to vermin.

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises registered under this Act in the District and so far as can be ascertained no persons are operating in contravention of the Act.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Rural District.

Rodent Control

This service once again followed the usual pattern with nothing out of the ordinary to comment upon. The number of inspections carried out by the two Rodent Operators were 620 non-agricultural premises with 281 infested with rats and 44 by mice; and 145 agricultural premises, 140 of which were infested by rats and 50 by mice.

Factories

As in other years information regarding premises falling within the scope of the Factories Act and of inspections made and action (if any) taken is given in tabular form and will be found on page 23.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963
Details of Premises, etc.

	Number of Premises Registered During Year	Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Number of Registered Premises Receiving General Inspection	Number of Persons employed
Offices	2	36	9	132
Retail Shops	4	57	21	144
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	—	9	5	62
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	3	11	6	44
Fuel storage depots	—	1	1	10
	9	114	42	392
Number of visits of all kinds (including General Inspections) to Registered Premises				Total Females
				191
				201

FACTORIES' ACT, 1961

Particulars of the premises registered by the Council under the Factories Act, 1961, and of the inspections made are to be found as follows:—

(I) INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority ...	4	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	59	2	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	63	2	—	—

(II) Cases in which DEFECTS were found:—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	1	—	—	1	—

Part VIII. of the Act
OUTWORK
 (Sections 133 and 134)

Section 133		Section 134				
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
(1)						
Wearing Apparel	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
All Others	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
...	...					

HOUSING

The number of additional units of accommodation provided in the District during 1968 was a decrease of 44 on the previous year's figure. Details are as follows:—

New Council Houses, Flats and Flatlets	...	...	7	
Private Enterprise Houses	...	...	224	
Conversion of other buildings	...	...	—
				231
Less: Eight cases of reconditioning where units of accommodation were reduced.	Number of			
dwellings lost	...	...	9	
Number of properties demolished	...	...	13	22
				209

At the end of the year there were 560 outstanding applications for housing accommodation an increase of 77 on the previous year. The percentage of the total known to be in genuine and urgent need for re-housing is comparatively low i.e. about 20%.

During the year, the Council completed 7 units of accommodation which was considerably less than 1967. The housing programme for 1968 allowed for a further 51 units which, compared to the previous year, was a much reduced figure resulting from the Ministerial 'squeeze.' The Hatfield Peverel Central Redevelopment Scheme involving about another 51 units was postponed until 1969.

The seven new units produced were at "Glebe Gardens" Site in Feering.

On the Robins Bridge Road Area at Coggeshall most of the properties had been acquired and negotiations were still pending for the remainder.

63 dwellings were modernised to varying degrees and of these 40 received assistance from the Council by way of either a Discretionary or Standard Improvement Grant.

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Housing Acts 1961/1964.

Figures for the year ending 31st December, 1968	Discretionary Grant Schemes	Standard Grant Schemes
(a) Number of Applications received	20	30
(b) Number of Applications approved by Council	20	28
(c) Number of Improved dwellings resulting from works at (b)	24	28
(d) Number of Improved dwellings completed	19	21
(e) Total amount involved in Grants approved	£8,879	£4,793
	£13,672	
(f) Actual amount paid in respect of the Standard Grant Schemes completed at (d)	...	£3,096 3s. 4d.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply and Dairies

Eleven distributors and one dairy remain registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

All licences for Designated Milks are dealt with by the Essex County Council.

Three complaints regarding dirty milk bottles were investigated and dealt with informally. Complaints of this nature draw attention to the difficulties experienced by dairymen in checking the large numbers of bottles passing through a modern bottle-washing plant.

Brucella Abortus

There were no fresh cases of Brucellosis notified as a result of samples of milk taken by the Essex County Council.

Ice Cream Premises

No samples were taken during the year owing to the difficulty in obtaining a freezing medium for use in transit.

Meat Inspection

The usual tabular information on this service is given on the next page. The number of animals killed and the incidence of disease, shows little variation on the previous year but the total amount of meat condemned is up by 7,357 lbs.

100% inspection of all animals killed as required by the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 was maintained, and no difficulties were encountered regarding hours of slaughter either by the Inspectors or the occupiers.

New legislation requiring the spraying of carcasses instead of wiping by cloths came into force on the 1st November, 1968. All premises were provided with the necessary equipment before this date and despite slaughter's initial scepticism no difficulties have been experienced regarding keeping qualities of meat or carcase appearance.

Visits to slaughterhouses by Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food brought little adverse comment.

Full use was again made of the laboratory facilities to assist identification of disease in unusual cases and this often proved of considerable assistance to the Inspectors, veterinary surgeons, and the owners of the animals concerned.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Other Animals
Number Killed and Inspected	3,251	234	354	4,467	11,484	—	1
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole carcasses condemned	14	31	30	9	32	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	612	141	70	106	1,021	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	19.26%	73.5%	31.49%	2.57%	9.16%	—	—
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	170	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.47%	—	—
Cysticercosis							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total quantities of Meat Condemned

Beef	Pork	Veal	Mutton	Total
29,475	11,904	3,016	653	45,048

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

During the year there were few complaints received regarding the unfitness of articles of food, but where these were received they were very thoroughly investigated either within the District or with the co-operation of the Authority concerned.

In no case was it deemed necessary to institute legal proceedings.

Food Hygiene Regulations

A table showing the number of premises of different types falling within the scope of these regulations and giving certain additional information as required by the Ministry of Health is set out overleaf:—

Routine inspections of food premises continued to be carried out with emphasis on those premises where open food is sold.

In addition to the butcher's meat previously detailed the following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

53 tins of Meat	85 lbs of Frozen Fish
4 tins of Fruit	38 lbs. of Meat
40 packets Frozen Foods	10 lbs Instant Potato

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Number of Premises in District

1. Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
2. Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
3. Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
4. Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
5. Grocery and General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
6. Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	65

	Complying with Regulation 16 (1)	Regulation 19 Applicable (2)	Complying with Regulation 19
Bakeries ...	7	7	7
Butchers ...	12	14	12
Catering Establishments	38	41	41
Ice Cream	5	1	1
Grocery and General Stores	56	64	60
Public Houses	55	62	62

(1) Provision of wash hand basin with hot and cold running water.

(2) Provision of sink with hot and cold running water.

